Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10
INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /020 R
DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:BWBROWN:B
APPROVED BY NEA/INS: DKUX
H- MR. FLATEN
004338
R 302319Z JUN 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 154536
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGG DOOM IN
TAGS: PGOV, IN
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN STATUS OF INDIAN
PARLIAMENT
TAKLIANLIN
1. REP. EDWARD J. DERWINSKI (R., ILL.) HAS REQUESTED
REPORT ON (1) NUMBER AND PARTY AFFILIATION OF MP'S
ARRESTED UNDER EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION, AND (2) STATEMENT
OF EFFECT OF EMERGENCY ON FUNCTIONING OF PARLIAMENT.
2. WE HAVE ONLY SCATTERED INFO ON ARRESTED MP'S AND
WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY HELP. TO MAKE CONGRESSMAN'S
DEADLINE PLEASE SUBMIT REPORT BY OPENING OF BUSINESS
JULY 7.
3. RE PARLIAMENT, WE INTEND TO TELL HIM THAT EMERGENCY
MEANS EXECUTIVE MAY LEGISLATE IN ANY WAY IT CHOOSES
WITHOUT PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL. HOWEVER, PARLIAMENT MUST
MEET WITHIN TWO MONTHS TO APPROVE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
BUT THIS MEETING MAY BE DELAYED UP TO SIX MONTHS BY PM'S
CALLING FOR NEW ELECTIONS. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS, ARRESTS, POLITICAL LEADERS, OPPOSITION PARTIES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 30 JUN 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE154536

Document Number: 1975STATE154536
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BWBROWN:B Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750227-0444

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975062/aaaaabkj.tel Line Count: 51

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN NEA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 1

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: greeneet

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 06 AUG 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by greeneet>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN STATUS OF INDIAN PARLIAMENT

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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006